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Report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting

Note by the Secretary-General

In accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 2017/228, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit the report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting. The report describes its new organization of work and elaborates on progress made with the regard to the Committee's medium-term programme of work. The discussion is organized around five areas of work of the Committee, namely, (a) coordination and promotion; (b) methodological development for normative standards and other research; (c) development of databases; (d) implementation of statistical capacity-building; and (e) formulation of a statistical response on emerging policy issues. The report concludes with points for discussion.

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Report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting

I. Introduction

1. At its forty-eighth session, held from 7 to 10 March 2017, the Statistical Commission adopted decision 48/112 (see E/2017/24, chap. I, sect. C), in which it:

(a) Expressed its appreciation for the work of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting in scaling up the implementation of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) to meet the targets set out in the updated implementation strategy and for the Committee's renewed focus on coordination of a global work programme;

(b) Stressed the value of SEEA in measuring Sustainable Development Goal indicators;

(c) Requested that the Committee of Experts continue its work on the development of SEEA-compliant databases which include the Sustainable Development Goal indicators, with international organizations developing estimates in consultation with countries and publishing results only with countries' consent;

(d) Supported the efforts of the Committee of Experts to strengthen capacity-building, which include developing in-depth courses and e-learning on SEEA modules, developing technical guidance documents, including technical notes, developing a knowledge platform and renewing the focus on the coordination of technical assistance at the global level;

(e) Agreed in principle with the proposed priority areas for the advancement of the research agenda for the SEEA Central Framework, and urged the Committee of Experts to support cooperation among all relevant technical groups;

(f) Supported the efforts of the Committee of Experts to update the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting manual by 2020, and encouraged countries to scale up experimentation and testing;

(g) Welcomed the collaboration with the Committee on Statistics and the Tourism Satellite Account of the World Tourism Organization, and requested that a technical note on the link between SEEA and the Tourism Satellite Account be developed as soon as possible;

(h) Encouraged the Committee to develop materials in support of the promotion of SEEA, in particular those raising awareness of its usefulness for policy.

2. The work of the Committee is organized around five broad areas of work, with members of the Bureau leading activities under the related components of the programme of work. The areas of work are: area A. Coordination, led by Statistics Canada; area B. Methodological development for normative standards and other research, divided into two sub-areas: area B1. SEEA Central Framework, led by Statistics Netherlands and area B2. SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting, led by Eurostat; area C. Development of databases, led by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD); area D. Implementation of statistical capacity-building, led by Statistics South Africa; and area E. Formulation of a statistical response on emerging policy issues, divided into two sub-areas: E1, focusing on communication, led by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, and E2, focusing on SEEA and the Sustainable Development Goals, led by the National

Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico (INEGI). The present report discusses the progress made during 2017 in carrying out the medium-term programme of work organized according to the broad category areas agreed in the Committee's terms of reference. Points for discussion are presented in section VII.

II. Area A. Coordination

3. Coordination entails ensuring that the various groups and international agencies active in the field of environmental accounting (including methodological development, technical cooperation and development of training, in-country capacity-building and data collection/compilation) work in a coordinated fashion to avoid overlaps of activities. Coordination will be further strengthened through partnerships with relevant international and regional agencies and transparent and open communication on the programme components.

4. A Working Group chaired by Statistics Canada has been established for work in this area. The group is composed of representatives from the statistical offices of Canada (Chair), Australia, Brazil, Mexico, the Netherlands, South Africa, Sweden, the United States of America, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), UN Environment and the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat. The Group met by videoconference in November 2017 to agree both on its terms of reference and on priority items which will form the basis for the Group's work programme for 2018.

5. All participating members agreed that the new and evolving website of the Statistics Division should serve as a platform for sharing information on current activities, meetings and events related to environmental-economic accounting and thus support the coordination role of the Working Group. The website will, for instance, play an important role in helping to consolidate knowledge of the various SEEA-related training initiatives carried out around the world, including e-learning, assisted learning and training workshops, and technical assistance activities. A calendar of all meetings, workshops and events related to SEEA will be presented in a "super calendar". Each event will have its own page where more detailed event information, agendas, meeting documents and presentations will be provided. If the event is not organized by the Statistics Division, then the meeting page will be linked to the host organization's event page. This will help furnish a general overview of "who is doing what, where and when" so as to prevent overlap and foster collaboration among different stakeholders. The website will increasingly include new features and tools, for example, for hosting forums and sharing documents. A knowledge base will also be established at the new website.

6. There has been a proliferation of groups and committees active in the area of environmental-economic accounting and related statistics with specific terms of reference and reporting structure. Considering the number of groups working on SEEA and supporting statistics with overlapping memberships, the need has been identified for reviewing the terms of reference of the various groups to ensure the best coordination and the least amount of overlap possible. This exercise will focus on those committees and groups established by the Committee of Experts on Experimental Ecosystem Accounting.

7. Statistics Canada, with support from Group members, will produce a draft work programme for 2018 which will include deliverables, timelines and responsibilities.

III. Area B. Methodological development for normative standards and other research

8. An important component of the work of the Committee is the advancement of the research agenda of both the SEEA Central Framework and SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting. A number of areas related, in particular, to classifications remain to be addressed in the SEEA Central Framework and SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting. Moreover, implementation practices at country level have identified several issues that warrant a systematic discussion. The present section describes the progress of methodological work on the SEEA Central Framework, including its subsystems, and SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting. Special attention will be paid to those issues that pertain to both the SEEA Central Framework and SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting, including, for example, the classification of land cover as well as the link between the classification of natural inputs and ecosystem services, so as to ensure full harmonization between the SEEA Central Framework and SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting.

Area B1. SEEA Central Framework

9. The advancement of the research agenda of the SEEA Central Framework and the development of materials to support its implementation have been repeatedly identified by the Statistical Commission as constituting a priority. To this end, the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting established the Technical Committee on the SEEA Central Framework, led by Statistics Netherlands, to address the issues identified during the drafting of the Framework, compilation issues and other issues that arose subsequently as a consequence of implementation in countries. A revised complete list of issues, which also provides a more in-depth outline of the issues identified, has been developed, with a view to advancing the SEEA Central Framework research agenda. The SEEA Central Framework research agenda and workplan were reviewed and prioritized by the Committee of Experts in June 2017. The timeline established to resolve the issues covered by this research agenda extends until 2019.

10. During 2017, progress was made in the following areas: integrated framework for environmental activity accounts (i.e., harmonization of concepts, definitions and classification of environmental protection expenditure accounts, resource management expenditure accounts, environmental goods and services sector accounts, environmental taxes, environmental subsidies and other transfers), a global data structure definitions for Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX) purposes, fossil fuel subsidies, economy-wide material flow accounts, approaches to the measurement of adapted goods and input-output techniques. At its twenty-third meeting (17–20 October 2017), the London Group on Environmental Accounting of the discussed many of these issues; the outcomes of those discussions will be consolidated and published on the Statistics Division website.

11. In 2017, work progressed on the testing of the technical notes for water, energy and air emission accounts. A technical note linking SEEA and Tourism Satellite Accounts has been developed and will be tested during 2018. The note will also provide the basis for the development of the framework for measuring sustainable tourism by the World Tourism Organization in collaboration with the Statistics Division. In addition, the SEEA Technical Committee is working in collaboration with various groups and initiatives active in specific areas related to the SEEA Central

Framework. In particular, a subgroup has been established to advance the work in the area of expenditures on biodiversity within the context of the update and revision of the classification of environmental activities.

Area B2. SEEA experimental ecosystem accounting

12. The SEEA implementation strategy, with which the Statistical Commission agreed in principle at its forty-seventh session (see E/2016/24, chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/106, para. (f)), envisages updating SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting by 2020, taking into account the experience accumulated through testing and experimentation initiatives. The Committee has advanced in its work on the revision of SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting, to be completed by the end of 2020. A SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting Technical Committee led by Eurostat was established to advance the research agenda and provide technical direction and contributions to the revision of SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting. Research areas and main issues to be addressed have been identified and planning for means of addressing the various revision issues has been developed, building on material provided for discussion to the Committee at its twelfth meeting in June 2017 and incorporating feedback from the SEEA Experimental Economic Accounting Technical Committee meeting in September 2017 and the meeting of the London Group on Environmental Accounting in October 2017.

13. A request for fundraising for the revision of SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting extending beyond national statistical offices has been sent out to members of the Committee of Experts and others who were involved in the Committee's work before. In addition, the Committee members were actively engaged in fundraising activities in their countries. While there has been a strong commitment of countries to supporting the revision of SEEA in kind, funds are still needed for the recruitment of an editor and the experts required to advance issues in the research agenda. Those funds are being raised to complement the funds already committed by Eurostat and a limited number of countries. In addition, the European Union-funded Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services project[1] will contribute to the above-mentioned research agenda through the drafting of technical papers and best practice guidance to be tested in the five project partner countries, namely, Brazil, China, Mexico, India and South Africa. The Committee decided to start the revision process while continuing its efforts to raise funds.

14. A research agenda for experimental ecosystem accounting, which was welcomed at the forty-fourth session of the Statistical Commission (see E/2013/24, chap. I, sect. C, decision 44/104, para. e), was subsequently updated during the eleventh meeting of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (New York, 22–24 June 2016). In 2017, the Committee advanced priority areas of the research agenda on the basis of agreed outputs, timelines and deliverables. The identified research issues have been grouped into four main research areas: (a) spatial issues, (b) ecosystem conditions, (c) ecosystem services and (d) accounting treatments and valuation.

15. For each of these research areas, the Committee has agreed to formulate the revision issues through (a) a description of the issue and the key research questions, (b) a discussion of connections between issues, (c) suggestions for the proposed timing of work and approach and (d) initial thoughts on the likely communities of

[1] See https://seea.un.org/home/Natural%20Capital%20Accounting

interest in advancing the research work. A lead author to be appointed for each of these groups will be supported by a small number of contributing authors providing substantive contributions to the resolution of the issues.

16. As part of the revision process, it is anticipated that an international workshop on valuing ecosystem services and assets within the context of natural capital accounting will be organized in April 2018 by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation of Germany, in collaboration with the Statistics Division and UN Environment, to advance the research agenda on valuation. In addition, an expert forum on ecosystem accounting, similar to those held in 2013 and 2015, will be hosted by the Statistics Division in New York in 2018. Both events will benefit from the contribution of the aforementioned European Union-funded Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services project and the contribution of the five partner countries. In due course, an editor will be recruited to coordinate the drafting of the revision.

17. The Committee is in the process of finalizing the technical recommendations in support of SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting 2012, taking into account the results received from a number of broad consultations on the various drafts and the final consultation among Committee members. The technical recommendations are expected to be published at the end of 2017.

IV. Area C. Development of databases

18. As recommended by the Statistical Commission at its forty-seventh session (see E/2016/24, chap. I, sect. B, decision 47/106, para. (f)), the Committee of Experts discussed the way forward in the compilation and dissemination of global SEEA-based data sets. It reiterated the urgency of developing a database to support integrated policymaking at national and international levels for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, [2] including monitoring through use of Sustainable Development Goal indicators.

19. At its eleventh meeting in June 2016, the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting stressed the importance of developing SEEA data sets to inform economic and environmental policy, as well as the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. It agreed that a pragmatic approach should be taken, starting with a small set of priority accounts followed by a progressive increase in the number of accounts and level of detail. Based on policy relevance, data availability and resource implications, the following SEEA accounts were identified as priority accounts for the development of global data sets: air emission accounts, energy accounts, economy-wide material flow accounts, land accounts and water accounts.

20. The Committee of Experts stressed the importance of developing global SEEA data sets based on existing national or international data sets, whenever possible. This strategy ensures consistency across data sources and limits the response burden for countries. The basic strategy is to use nationally available data in accordance with the SEEA Central Framework to the extent possible, and to supplement these data with estimates based on internationally available data sources (see below).

21. To facilitate data transmission, several international organizations (Eurostat, FAO, OECD, UN Environment and the Statistics Division) are currently working

[2] General Assembly resolution 70/1.

together on developing and applying the SDMX framework to SEEA accounts. Global data structure definitions for the five priority SEEA accounts are expected to be validated by the SDMX Ownership Group by the end of 2017 and to undergo a testing phase in the first quarter of 2018.

22. As in other statistical areas (e.g., national accounts), countries will have the opportunity to use Excel-based questionnaires with a converter which can generate SDMX files for data transmission. This converter will be supplied by the international organization in charge of data collection.

23. When SEEA accounts are not yet compiled by countries, it is envisaged that international organizations will use, whenever possible, estimation techniques in order to populate the global databases with data for the relevant countries. In order that optimal quality and backing from the countries may be achieved, the resulting estimates, before being disseminated, will be submitted to them for validation. The relevant estimates will also be clearly identified as what they are: *estimates*, not official statistics. Data will be disseminated only with prior consent of the country concerned.

24. SEEA-compliant air emission accounts and energy accounts are two areas where estimation techniques give encouraging results. Estimated air emission accounts for greenhouse gases can be derived from the air emission inventories submitted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[1] at least for Annex I countries, whereas estimated energy accounts can be derived from the energy balances produced by the International Energy Agency (IEA). In both cases, the estimation methodology will be presented to the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting, for approval. A tool that constitutes a simplified version of the physical energy flow accounts (PEFA) builder developed by Eurostat, has been developed by the Statistics Division to produce energy accounts starting from the IEA energy balances and using default coefficients. Those coefficients can be modified by countries if more detailed data are available. The testing of the simplified PEFA will be initiated in 2018. The methodology for the compilation of energy accounts using the simplified PEFA tool as well as the results of the testing will be discussed in an upcoming expert group meeting.

25. UN Environment and the International Resource Panel have also undertaken work on updating the global material flow database and developing a global manual on material flow accounts which would pave the way for an international data set on economy-wide material flow accounts aligned with SEEA.

26. The Statistics Division plans to disseminate the SEEA-compliant database. It should be noted that country databases will be disseminated only for those countries from which prior approval has been received. The need to strengthen and improve basic statistics remains an important component of countries' work programmes in support of SEEA implementation and beyond.

V. Area D. Implementation of statistical capacity-building

27. In 2017, the Committee conducted the third global assessment of the country-level implementation of SEEA. The aim of the survey was to provide information on the scope of implementation in countries of the SEEA Central Framework and SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting. The 2017 global assessment tracks progress

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

achieved since the previous assessments (2006 and 2014) and provides data for a gap analysis which will inform the focus of capacity-building initiatives undertaken by various regional organizations. The aim of the capacity-building initiatives remains to enable 100 countries to implement the SEEA Central Framework and 50 countries to implement SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting by 2020, in line with the targets of the SEEA implementation strategy.

28. The 2017 global assessment survey was sent to 193 Member States, and territories as well. As of November 2017, 108 responses had been received, corresponding to a 56 per cent response rate. Of responders, 65 per cent (70 countries) had programmes on environmental-economic accounts, with another 19 per cent (20 countries) planning to start compilation of accounts in the near future. This represents a 30 per cent increase, compared with 2014, in the number of countries with a programme in environmental-economic accounts. Details of the 2017 global assessment are available in a background document.

29. Several initiatives of regional commissions and international agencies have been carried out and initiatives are planned for the short and medium term, to support SEEA Central Framework and SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting implementation in countries. The intention is to use the results from the global assessment survey 2017 to inform those initiatives and secure synergies where possible.

30. Many initiatives focused on using e-learning to develop capacity in countries in 2017. The Statistics Division collaborated with both the Economic Commission for Europe and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on translating online modules on the SEEA Central Framework into Russian and Arabic, respectively. These online modules serve as part of blended learning initiatives designed to provide an introduction to the SEEA Central Framework. Participants will gain technical knowledge and hands-on experience in the compilation of accounts, as well as experience in support of policymaking. The Division and the regional commissions expect to complete both initiatives in the first half of 2018.

31. The Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) and the Economic Commission for Africa have already run the e-learning course on the SEEA Central Framework as part of an effort to extend the number of thematic areas on the SIAP e-learning platform. Approximately 260 participants from Africa and Asia have participated in this online training.

32. To build on the previous e-learning courses on the SEEA Central Framework, the Statistics Division is also developing in-depth modules on water, energy and ecosystems. The SEEA Water and Energy e-learning modules are currently being finalized, and in 2017, the SEEA Central Framework Technical Committee provided technical oversight for both modules, which will be launched as part of blended learning initiatives in 2018. Similarly, the Division completed development of SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting e-learning modules in 2017. The SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting Technical Committee provided technical oversight for the modules and the Statistics Division expects to launch these modules in 2018. All of the e-learning courses are posted on the Division website.[4] A number of e-learning and face-to-face workshops on water, energy and ecosystems will be run in 2018 in various regions of the world.

[4] https://elearning-cms.unstats.un.org/

33. In addition to e-learning, there are several ongoing projects focusing on building capacity and implementing the SEEA in countries. The European Union-funded Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services project to advance ecosystem accounting held inception missions for all project countries in 2017. The project includes the development of national plans, pilot SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounts, and development of indicators in the context of international initiatives, as well as initiatives promoting knowledge sharing as a means of enlarging the community of practitioners on natural capital accounting and SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting. A regional workshop on ecosystem accounting with approximately 100 participants from the project countries and other Asian countries was held in China in November 2017.

34. The next meeting of the OECD-Economic Commission for Europe seminar on the implementation of SEEA, which will be held in Geneva on 21 and 22 February 2018, aims at identifying countries' priorities and needs in the context of implementation of SEEA.

35. The World Bank Wealth Accounting and the Valuation of Ecosystem Services (WAVES) programme, which is also focused on building capacity in natural capital accounting, currently includes the provision of training, workshops and support for institutionalizing natural capital accounting in Botswana, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Indonesia, the Philippines and Rwanda. Further, the second Forum on Natural Capital Accounting for Better Policy (NCA Policy Forum), which was held in The Hague in 2017, focused on how natural capital accounting can be used by government, business and other sectors to achieve Sustainable Development Goals. The Forum was led by the World Bank in collaboration with the Statistics Division and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands.

36. The Statistics Division concluded a United Nations Development Account ninth tranche project, whose aim was to support Member States in developing and strengthening environment statistics and integrated environmental-economic accounting for improved monitoring of sustainable development. In particular, the accounting component of the project aimed at strengthening institutional and technical capacity of the national statistical offices and the relevant stakeholders of Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia and Uganda. The project included the development of national plans in consultation with national stakeholders and compilation of selected accounts in accordance with countries' priorities and data availability. Indonesia compiled energy and air emissions accounts; Malaysia, water and energy accounts; Kenya, energy accounts; and Uganda, water accounts. Closing regional workshops were held in collaboration with the World Bank and regional commissions and focused on policy applications and dissemination of SEEA.

VI. Area E. Formulation of a statistical response on emerging policy issues

37. The Committee has identified communication and mainstreaming SEEA in emerging policy discussions, in particular on the Sustainable Development Goals, as an important core activity of the Group. There needs to be proper communication with statistical offices on the compilation of the SEEA accounts, as constituting a new standard. SEEA can be implemented in many countries using available country data held in a diverse number of administrative and other databases. Moreover, SEEA should be used as an organizing framework for existing data, and for identifying data gaps and the need for improving and mainstreaming data gathering within the

statistical production process. SEEA also serves as a tool for bringing together different ministries and working procedures for developing an integrated environmental-economic database. The use of SEEA not just as a statistical organizing framework but also as an analytical and policy framework in support of integrated policy decision-making should be properly communicated to users through practical applications.

Area E1. Communication

38. The management meeting of the Committee in June 2017 was preceded by a seminar designed to assist Committee members in recognizing opportunities for promoting SEEA mainstreaming. It provided the opportunity for Committee members to develop an informed idea of who best to target in promoting SEEA and how to engage them, in particular through the use of context-appropriate messaging and communication tools with target audiences. At the end of the seminar, the Committee had identified multiple concrete entry points, both national and international, for promoting SEEA, as well as potential communication tools for those entry points.

39. The Committee, led by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, finalized an updated communications strategy which builds upon the results of the seminar and facilitates the implementation of SEEA and the mainstreaming of its use in integrated policymaking. The strategy, which has a practical focus, emphasizes consistent core messages adapted to audience needs and interests, so as to influence strategically important stakeholders. The strategy requires that members make personal efforts to promote SEEA, monitor progress through concrete measures and inform the Secretariat on a quarterly basis of progress and achievements. The communications strategy is available in a background document.

40. The new SEEA website launched in September 2017 will be one of the main platforms upon which the communication strategy is to be operationalized. Since this website will be the main means of communication with civil society as well as with other non-technical stakeholders, an accessible approach geared to the general public will be maintained, with technical jargon kept to a minimum.

41. To sustain an informed and committed uptake of SEEA, the Statistics Division, with the assistance of the Australian Bureau of Statistics, will commence coordinated efforts to issue a regular newsletter from early 2018. This newsletter will be an important adjunct to the communications strategy supporting the implementation of SEEA. It will adopt a flexible approach and its aim will be to appeal to multiple audiences by reporting on a variety of topics, including relevant news and events, technical developments, links to policy, case studies of successful SEEA implementation, project progress and relevant contemporary reading. The newsletter will rely upon contributions from member countries. It will be emailed to Committee members, SEEA contact points and other subscribers. In order to reach as many audiences as possible, the newsletter will adopt an accessible style. The new SEEA website will host a sign-up link for the newsletter.

42. The European Union-funded Natural Capital Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services project will contribute to the implementation of the SEEA communications strategy through establishing its project website and by developing a knowledge-based platform on the SEEA website. A specific section dedicated to the results of the project will be included in the quarterly SEEA newsletter.

Area E2. SEEA and the Sustainable Development Goals

43. At its twelfth meeting in June 2017, the Committee of Experts reaffirmed the important role of the SEEA in the Sustainable Development Goals policy agenda. Integrated frameworks such as SEEA assess synergies and trade-offs, which will support that agenda. The Committee emphasized the need to work strategically to promote SEEA for the Sustainable Development Goals and formed a group led by INEGI to develop a strategy in that regard. The Committee of Experts recommended that, in the immediate future, Committee members work with custodian agencies of the environmental indicators, in particular UN Environment and FAO. The members of the Committee of Experts, in particular those that are also members of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators, should play an active role in ensuring that the Sustainable Development Goal indicators reflect SEEA standards, where appropriate. In particular, the Committee requested that a short list of indicators be developed through which the Committee would have an opportunity to influence the indicator methodology. The Committee of Experts also acknowledged the need for a medium-term strategy to ensure that the Committee would be recognized as the formal mechanism for review of Sustainable Development Goal indicators, which could be informed by SEEA. This medium-term strategy will be developed for presentation to the Committee at its thirteenth meeting.

VII. Points for discussion

44. **The Commission is invited to express its views on:**

(a) **The proposed activities to enhance coordination and prevent overlaps in the development of methodologies and capacity-building on SEEA and supporting statistics (sect. II);**

(b) **The proposed process to advance the research agenda of the SEEA Central Framework and the revision of SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (sect. III);**

(c) **The process for initiating a global database on the SEEA Central Framework, emphasizing the needs for developing and strengthening basic data in support of the accounts and beyond (sect. IV);**

(d) **The capacity-building activities and strategy focused on e-learning, face-to-face hands-on workshops and country technical support (sect. V);**

(e) **The communication strategy and the proposed activities for the promotion of SEEA for the Sustainable Development Goal indicators, where appropriate (sect. VI).**